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Congressman Abercrombie visits Airborne Laser exhibit at Paris Air Show



PARIS – U.S. Congressman Neil Abercrombie, D-Hawaii, left, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, discusses the Airborne Laser (model in foreground) with Ken Englade, a representative of the Air Force Research Laboratory's Directed Energy Directorate and the Airborne Laser program office, both organizations at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. The Airborne Laser, and the laboratory's technical support to the laser-armed aircraft, was highlighted through in the Department of Defense exhibit at the Paris Air Show. Held every two years, this air show is the largest in the world, with more than 300 U.S. exhibitors in the International U.S. Pavilion alone.

Among other visitors to the exhibit during Saturday's opening day were Secretary of Commerce Donald L. Evans; U.S. Senator Ted Stevens, R-Alaska; and Christine M. Ciccone, special assistant to the President in the Office of Legislative Affairs. The directorate operates major computer and astronomical research facilities in Congressman Abercrombie's state. @